

Flight Jacket

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Desert Scorpion displays 3d LAAD Bn. flexibility, muscle

Air defense battalion engages Three Block War scenario from ground up

By Sgt. Steven A. Davis

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Third Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion — “The grunts of the Wing” — concluded Exercise Desert Scorpion with a definite bang Thursday. The Marines who launch Stinger missiles and 50-caliber ammunition against enemy air threats, either from the mobile Avenger weapons system or via shoulder-launched resolve, would have it no other way.

The exercise was designed to gauge the unit’s preparedness to react to a major contingency in the Asian-Pacific region. The biannual exercise primarily focused on 3d LAAD Bn.’s area of expertise — air defense — but also included Nuclear, Biological and Chemical, urban warfare and aggressor force deterrence capabilities.

According to the battalion’s operations officer, Maj. Jeffrey P. Davis, the exercise was designed to challenge all 3d LAAD Bn. echelons, from the commanding officer’s staff to small unit decision-makers. “It was a multifaceted scenario with a lot of moving parts,” said Davis. “In addition to the air threat, we’ve tried to simulate day-after-day fatigue of combat and the dynamic, changing environment of combat.”

Third LAAD Bn.’s “day job” is to provide low altitude, surface-to-air firepower in support of Marine Air-Ground Task Force priorities. Once air superiority is achieved, however, many of the battalion’s Marines would be called upon to fulfill unconventional missions assigned by the MAGTF commander.

This exercise assessed many of

See **Scorpion**, page 10



photo by Sgt. Steven A. Davis

Cpl. Jason Frasier, Battery A, 2nd Platoon team leader (below), and his assistant gunner, Lance Cpl. Maximino Alday, stand by before initiating a 50-caliber machine gun live fire mounted to their Avenger system. The live fire was one of the final training objectives that wrapped up Exercise Desert Scorpion.

Marine commands space shuttle flight

By Sgt. A.C. Strong

Marine Corps News

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, Fla. — Marine Col. Terry Wilcutt of Louisville, Ky. is commander of the Space Shuttle Atlantis, which left Sept. 8 on its return flight to the International Space Station. Launch time was at approximately 7:46 a.m. central time.

Wilcutt and the seven-man crew of STS-106 launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., and rendezvoused and docked with the ISS on Sunday. The crew will spend a week inside the ISS unloading supplies from both the Atlantis and from a Russian Progress M-1 resupply craft to the Zvezda Service Module, according to National Aeronautic and Space Administration public affairs. This is in preparation for the arrival of a “permanent human presence on the new outpost,” which is set to take place in late October.

This joint mission is Wilcutt’s second time commanding, and his fourth trip into space. Other members of the crew include United States Navy Cmdr. Scott D. Altman

See **Wilcutt**, page 10



NASA photo used with permission

The crew of mission STS-106 stop in front of the Space Shuttle Atlantis for a quick photo. They are from the left: astronaut Richard A. Mastracchio, cosmonaut Yuri I. Malenchenko, astronauts Daniel C. Burbank, Scott D. Altman, Marine Col. Terry W. Wilcutt, cosmonaut Boris V. Morukov and astronaut Edward T. Lu. Morukov and Malenchenko represent the Russian Aviation and Space Agency.

Miramar saddened by mishap

By Flight Jacket Staff

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Capt. Bret O. Hines and Maj. Nicholas Ferencz III died in an F/A-18D mishap Monday at approximately 4:30 p.m., while conducting aerial combat maneuver training east of Yuma, Ariz.

Hines, 27, was the pilot of the downed aircraft, and Ferencz, 36, was the weapons systems officer. Both were assigned to the Marine All-Weather Fighter-Attack Squadron 242 “Bats.” Ferencz was the squadron’s executive officer and Hines was a schedule writer.

Hines was a native of Richmond, Va., and is survived by his parents. Ferencz was from Cleveland and is survived by his father and stepmother.

The jet took off from Marine Corps Air

Station Yuma at approximately 3:45 p.m. for the routine training mission. Preliminary indications suggest the mishap aircraft collided to some extent with another VMFA(AW)-242 F/A-18D during the flight, before crashing on the Barry M. Goldwater Range.

The other F/A-18D landed safely at MCAS Yuma with relatively minor damage. The pilot and weapons systems officer of that aircraft were uninjured. Their names are not being released due to the ongoing mishap investigation.

The Marine Corps would like to convey its sincere condolences to the families and friends of the two brave deceased Marines.

The Bats will honor their fallen comrades with a memorial service at the Station Chapel 10 a.m. today.

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Flight Jacket



Maj. Gen. Charles F. Bolden Jr.
Commanding General
3d Marine Aircraft Wing

Maj. Gen. William G. Bowdon
Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases
Western Area

Maj. Stephen H. Kay
Director, Public Affairs Office

Capt. Rebecca Goodrich-Hinton
Deputy Director, Public Affairs Office

1st Lt. Edward J. Morales
Managing Editor

Cpl. David Hercher
Internal Information Chief, Editor

Sgt. Troy M. Ruby

Cpl. Carolyn S. Sittig

Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

Lance Cpl. Scott Whittington
Combat Correspondents



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Vikings are back home

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Marines and Sailors from Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 "Vikings" and Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 11 "Devilfish" returned home to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Sept. 8, after a six-month Western Pacific deployment.

Family members and friends of the over 180 Marines gathered at Hangar One that afternoon holding signs and banners to show their love and support for the Marines.

During the WESTPAC, the Vikings, supported by the Devilfish, conducted several training exercises from their temporary home at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

After arriving in early March a handful of Viking aircraft, pilots and supporting maintenance Marines head off for Kadena Air Force Base, Okinawa, Japan. For about three weeks Vikings and Air Force pilots tested one another during air-to-air combat exercise, pitting F/A-18C "Hornets" against Air Force F-15 "Eagle" fighters. The Vikings also performed laser close air support mission with soldiers from an Army Special Forces unit while deployed to Okinawa.

Next on the Vikings' schedule was Operation Cobra Gold in Thailand. The joint exercise with the Thai air force test pilots' skills in numerous air-to-air and air-to-ground combat scenarios.

The Vikings headed "down under" for their final in-theatre deployment. Operations Southern Frontier and Pitch Black were conducted back-to-back, the first focusing on forward air control airborne training and air-to-ground and the later involving large-force



photo by Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

Marines of VMFA (AW)-225 and MALS-11 file out of a commercial airliner and stepped foot onto the Miramar flightline for the first time in six months.

self escort strike training. The joint exercises provided training opportunities for Australian and Singapore air force pilots, and Marines alike.

In total, VMFA-225 pilots flew about 2,100 flight hours during the deployment, according to Capt. Waylan Cain, Vikings administration officer. Cain said thanks to the

dedicated work of the squadrons maintenance Marines VMFA (AW)-225 maintained about a 90 percent aircraft availability rating throughout the deployment. Vikings were relieved by the VMFA (AW)-121 "Green Knights." The squadron is slated to undergo its next UDP deployment in early 2002.

Marine Corps' Assistant Commandant retires

By Sgt. A. C. Strong

Marine Corps News

WASHINGTON — The Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Terrence R. Dake retired last night in a ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, DC.

Gen. Dake was retired Corps after 34 years of service by Gen. James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine who also presented him with the Distinguished Service Medal.

Gen. Dake, leaving with his wife for a long awaited vacation in Europe, has one message he would like to stress to Marines today. "There is little that is as important to me than this," said Gen. Dake. "Safety of the individual Marine."

See **Dake**, page 10



USMC photo

Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James L. Jones presents Gen. Terrance R. Dake with the Distinguished Service Medal during Gen. Dake's retirement ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., Sept. 7. Gen. Dake retired with 34 years of service to the Marine Corps.

Coupon industry helps U.S. military personnel to weather financial storm

Courtesy of Paul A. Wilson

Promotion Marketing Association, Inc.
Coupon Council

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — The nation's coupon industry is taking direct action this weekend to provide targeted budget relief for local military families who need it most.

Recent media reports uncovered the hardship many of our military families encounter stretching their paycheck enough to buy even basic food items.

A nationwide poll revealed that even with the deeply discounted prices offered at their base commissary store, many were forced to resort to food stamps to afford groceries.

Responding to the crisis, manufacturers of several popular grocery brands are collaborating to offer some immediate relief.

On Saturday and Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day, thousands of special coupons, Coup-O-Dex® organizers, recipe books, logo bearing t-shirts & ball caps and free product samples will be given away to shoppers at the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Commissary.

More than \$100,000 worth of "goodies" will be given away free, first come — first serve, over the two day event. Free hot dogs, Jolly Time® Pop Corn & Coca-Cola® will be served.

"We are giving back to help our nation's servicemen and women, said Paul Wilson, organizer of the event and spokesperson for National Coupon Month. These individuals and families make huge sacrifices to keep us free and safe. To me, it is our patriotic duty to support them in any way we can."

National Coupon Month is sponsored each September by the Promotional Marketing Association.

Established in 1911, PMA is the premier trade association representing the \$200 billion promotion marketing industry. Its 670-plus members include many Fortune 500 corporations such as Pepsi Cola, Ford Motor Company, McDonald's, Procter & Gamble and Microsoft. The association is the leading voice for companies and professionals involved in promotion marketing.

Miramar Sailor saves man's life

By Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

The California Highway Patrol presented an award to a Sailor stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Sept. 7 in the conference room of the CHP's, San Diego, Calif., headquarters.

Petty Officer 2nd class Mark R. Major, a safety diver at the Aviation Survival Training Center here, was recognized for his actions which resulting in saving the life of an elderly San Diego man.

Major was traveling north on Highway 163 enroute to the air station April 7, when he noticed a car parked on the side of the road. As he got closer he noticed a body lying on the ground near the rear right side tire.

Initially he thought it was a person just changing a tire. But as he passed he realized the person lying on the ground was about six feet away from the car making his initial assessment an unlikely probability.

At that point Major knew some-

thing was seriously wrong. He hurried toward the scene. All the way flailing his arms in hopes of stopping another passer-by for some assistance.

"I got to him and I asked him, 'Can I help you?', 'What's wrong with you?' He just said he couldn't breathe and he was hurting. I continued asking him questions, but his condition deteriorated and he couldn't answer me anymore," said Major. "At that time a person ran past me and said 'I'm calling 911.'

Major continued to care for Sal Gumina while he waited for the paramedics to arrive.

"I continued to monitor his blood pressure and breathing, but they where rapidly deteriorating," said Major.

He asked those who stopped to help if any of them knew CPR, but none of them did.

"I tried to explain to one guy how to do rescue breaths, CPR breathing. I gave him a quick 15-20 second class on it, so he grabbed the head and another guy grabbed the feet. I monitored the man's con-

dition but it continued to get worse. At that point the man became almost unconscious, rolling back and forth and then he just stopped moving. Then I felt for his pulse, but I couldn't find it anymore. I was at the decision then 'Should I start CPR or not?' I check him again, no breathing, no pulse, that's when I told a 911 operator I was going to start CPR."

Major, assisted by other passers by who where kind enough to stop and help, conducted CPR on the man until he regained consciousness. Coincidentally the paramedics arrived in an ambulance at that very moment. The paramedics lifted the man into the ambulance, and that was the last Major had or heard from him, until the day of the award ceremony.

After CHP officers praised the actions of Major and his road-side colleagues and presented them with an award certificate, Gumina had a few words of his own for the group.

"I really happy to see you all here and I thank you for what you



photo by Cpl. Kristopher S. Haloj

Petty Officer 2nd class Mark R. Major, senior safety diver Miramar ASTC, meets Sal Gumina for the first time since he saved Gumina's life April 7. Major administered CPR on Gumina along the side of highway 163, saving his life.

did to save my life," said Gumina.

Due to a recent stroke, Gumina, had a hard time speaking. He did his best to explain how he felt about what Major and the group did for him then presented each with an award of his own.

After all the praise and pats on the back, Major, very aware of the results of his actions, remains very modest.

"I believe in awards, and I believe people need to be recognized, but I really haven't lost my faith in human-kind. I believe people are still good in general and somebody would have stopped if I hadn't. Those other gentleman stopped," said Major. "What goes around comes around and maybe if I need some help someday someone will stop for me."

Unique utility uniform on horizon

Miramar Marines voice their opinions, concerns

By Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Marines got a sneak peek at what the Corps' new utility uniform may look like at a brief in the station theater Tuesday.

Maj. Gabe Patricio, utility uniform project coordinator, Marine Corps Systems Command, has been tasked with collecting information and coming up with a design for a Marine Corps-unique utility uniform. He came to Miramar to show Marines the two final camouflauge patterns and uniform designs under consideration and collect input through the use of a survey.

"This uniform is the future of the Marine Corps," said Sgt. Maj. Ira J. Lott, sergeant major, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area. "How it is made up depends on your input. You are charged by the Commandant of the Marine Corps to help put this uniform together."

According to Patricio the new uniforms, scheduled to be issued to recruits next summer, will be designed to be more durable, have more combat utility and provide Marines a uniform that is distinctive from the other armed services.

"Do I want people to see Marines from a distance and know from the uniform that they are United States Marines? Absolutely," said Gen. James L. Jones, Commandant of the Marine Corps, according to a Marine Corps Times article.

"The decision has been made that you are going to get a new uniform," Patricio told Miramar Marines. "Since you are going to get it, what do you want it to look like?"

The uniforms aren't down in stone yet, Patricio informed the Marines. From the information he will collect from Miramar

Marines, as well as other Marines stationed around the globe, the details of the uniform will take shape.

The new uniforms will be made of a permanent press type of material that Marines will not need to starch or press. The uniform tops will be made from a 6 1/2 ounce per square yard fabric and the trousers will be made from a 7 1/2 ounce per square yard fabric.

"The different fabric thickness gives the perception of comfort while keeping the durability of the uniform," said Patricio.

Another idea involves uniform reversibility. A new technology has made it possible to print different patterns on each side of the fabric making them reversible

without changing the thickness of the fabric. This could make it possible to have one uniform that is effective in desert or urban areas as well as in wooded areas.

"We all have woodland uniforms, but we never know where the ship is going to stop and where we will have to fight," said Patricio. "Why not have not only woodland uniforms, but desert/urban uniforms with us all the time as well?"

Both of the final uniform blouse designs have smaller collars, no bottom pockets and the addition of pocket on the sleeves near the shoulders. The breast pockets are to be placed at a slant instead of ver-



Cpl. Julius Franks, avionics electronics technician, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465, takes a look at a brown combat boot at the new uniform brief Wednesday. Brown boots will be incorporated in the new utility uniform, but the design is still up in the air.

photo by Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

tical as they are on the current uniform to allow hands to move in and out of them more

See **Utilities**, page 10

A Day of Remembrance for POW/MIAs

by Flight Jacket Staff

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

In recognition of Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day, officially celebrated during the third week of September, a ceremony will be conducted here today at 2:30 p.m. at the Officer's Club here in recognition of POW/MIA Recognition Day.

The ceremony today will gather former POW/MIAs from the San Diego area to recognize their sacrifices during World War II, the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

"We truly appreciate the sacrifices you made while in the service of your nation and the courage it took to survive the ordeal of captivity," said Maj. Gen. William G.

Bowdon, Commander Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area, in the POW/MIA welcome letter.

Keynote speaker will be retired Navy Captain Dave Carey, who flew combat missions in 1967 over North Vietnam from aboard the

USS Oriskany. After being shot down by a surface-to-air missile, he spent five and one half years as a P.O.W. incarcerated in numerous Vietnamese prisons. Carey now works as a professional speaker, trainer and accomplished consultant.

He is also as author of *"The Ways We Choose, Lessons for Life From A P.O.W.'s Experience."*

President Clinton officially proclaimed Sept. 19, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day in 1997.

"Americans will never forget those who have borne the indignities and sufferings of captivity in service to our country, those missing in action, or those who died as prisoners of war, far from home and family," said Clinton.

"On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we reaffirm our commitment to those still missing and renew our pledge to make every effort to obtain the answers to their fate. We can do no less for these American heroes and for their families, who have endured such profound loss and whose suffering continues as long as their loved ones' fates remain unknown," Clinton concluded.

According to the Secretary of Defense Historian Stuart Rochester, since the early 1990s, the Vietnamese government has become much more open, allowing DoD representatives to enter the country and search for missing servicemembers.



The following bullets detail the meaning behind the 2000 POW/MIA Recognition Day poster.

The POW/MIA Web site is http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/powday/pow_rec_day_00_poster.htm.

- In the upper left-hand corner is the missing American. This is our loved one, our son, our father, our brother. He is not with us. He is missing. He is always with us.

- The somber black tones of the poster symbolize the darkness in our lives from those taken from us ... those who are missing. The black background with white border brings to mind the stark black POW/MIA flag.

- The telegram symbolizes the link to the families of our missing ... those who have for so long ... sought answers.

- The jet aircraft are flying the traditional "missing man" formation. Their comrade is not with them. They know that someday, they will all be able to say "three's in".

- The serviceman in the foreground symbolizes the soldier, sailor, airman or Marine who wears the military uniform today.

Our commitment to them is firm. Our nation's obligation to them is steadfast. We will never forget their service, nor their sacrifice. And "LEST WE FORGET" is simply a reminder to all who love America, that our loved ones will always be with us ... our commitment to them will never be forgotten!



Official POW/MIA related links:

Veterans Affairs:

<http://www.va.gov/>

Department of Defense:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

<http://korea50.army.mil/>

<http://www.afip.org/oafme/dna/afdil.html>

US Air Force:

<http://www.af.mil/>

US Army:

<http://www.army.mil/>

<http://www.cilhi.army.mil/>

<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/faq/memday/memday.htm>

<http://www.qmfound.com/mortuary-affairs.htm>

USMC:

<http://www.usmc.mil/>

US Navy:

<http://www.navy.mil/>

Library of Congress:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/>

Vietnam-Era Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action database:

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pow/powhome.html>

National Archives and Records Administration:

<http://www.nara.gov/>

<http://www.nara.gov/research/>

National Cemeteries and Monuments:

Arlington National Cemetery (The Official Site)

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org/>

American Battle Monuments Commission

<http://www.abmc.gov/>

Korean War Veterans Memorial (National Park Service Site)

<http://www.nps.gov/kwvm/>

Vietnam Veterans Memorial (National Park Service Site)

<http://www.nps.gov/vive/>

Former POWs may qualify for Purple Heart

By Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Former American prisoners of war may be eligible to receive the Purple Heart medal due to a little-publicized four-year-old change in the award rules.

President John F. Kennedy started the change by signing Executive Order 11-1016 on April 25, 1962. Until that time, service members could receive the Purple Heart only during a formally declared state of war. Kennedy's order made it possible to award the medal even without a formal declaration of war.

The 1962 order didn't specifically mention POWs or their eligibility because of wounds and injuries suffered in captivity. An Army policy change dated Sept. 27, 1962, allowed Purple Heart awards henceforth to members who might become prisoners of war and be wounded or injured by their captors.

Neither Kennedy's executive order nor the Army change was retroactive. No former prisoners of war of any service, living and dead, who were wounded or injured during captivity before April 25, 1962, were eligible until Congress passed legislation as part of the 1996 National Defense Authorization Act.

Prior to the 1996 legislation, for instance, none of the 140,000 U.S. service members who surrendered to the Japanese in the Philippines in May 1942 could qualify for a Purple Heart. Also ineligible were the thousands of former POWs who came later in World War II and in the Korean War.

Since 1996, a number of World War II and Korean War vets have applied for Purple Hearts on the basis of wounds and injuries received while they were POWs, officials of the Army's Military Awards Branch said. Sup-

porting documentation is required and may include copies of repatriation medical exams, or a witness statement from a cellmate, for example, stating their buddy was abused at hands of captors.

The injuries or wounds must be deliberately inflicted by captors, they said. Injuries received while on work detail, for example, probably would not qualify — but if in doubt, apply.

A recent example of troops earning the Purple Heart while held captive occurred more than a year ago in the Balkans. Serb forces captured three U.S. soldiers on March 31, 1999. The Americans endured frequent beatings until their May 2 release. All three received Purple Heart medals.

Assistants at the Military Order of the Purple Heart headquarters in Springfield, Va., said veterans applying for the medal should use Standard Form 180, "Request Pertaining to Military Records," readily available at Department of Veterans Affairs service and medical centers; online at <http://web1.whs.osd.mil/forms/SF0180.PDF>.

The back of the form includes instructions and mailing addresses, which differ by the applicant's service and rank.

For more on the Purple Heart's history, eligibility and [information on the Military Order of the Purple Heart](http://purpleheart.org/), visit the organization's Web site at <http://purpleheart.org/>.



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Miramar celebrates POW/MIA day

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar will hold a ceremony today at 2:30 p.m. at the Officer's Club here in recognition of POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Volunteers sought for community project.

The 3d MAW Chaplain's office is assisting in repairing homes and performing yard work for adults and children with special needs. This event will take place at Ivey Ranch in Oceanside, Calif., from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information call 577 - 7368.

Experienced Rider Course offered

The Safety Officer holds the Experienced Rider Course the 3rd Wednesday of every month. The course concentrates on cornering, braking and swerving. For more information, call Dan Jaquez at 577-8595.

Library extends hours

The station library has extended its hours. The new hours are Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Friday from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information, call 577 - 1261.

MCCS seeks athlete of the year nominations

Marine Corps Community Services needs units to submit nominees for the 2000 Marine Corps Male and Female Athlete of the Year for Oct. 1999 through Sept. 2000. Marines eligible must have been in intramural, All Marine, national level or selected to the United States CISM team. Nominations must be turned in no later than today. For more information, call Bob Stop at 577 - 4127.

New on-line library catalog available

The library now has an on-line catalog listing of all the books the station libraries have throughout the Marines Corps. Marines can log on to the site at, *http://library.usmc.mccs-org*. Through the site Marines can request a book from any library and the library staff can order that book.

Safety offices wants to hear Marines' stories

The safety office is seeking stories about Marines who have had a traffic mishap or a near miss. For more information, call Linda Jackowski at 577 - 1356.

Safety needs to be addressed on the golf course

Marines are reminded that they should not be running throughout the gold course and conducting daily exercises. Instead, they should stay on the designated physical fitness route.

Sick leave regulations change

The sick leave policy has been expanded for federal employees as of June 20. Employees may take up to 12 days of sick leave each year to care for a family member, souse, brother, sister or any individual related by blood. However, if that employee has already taken the allotted 13 days, that time must be deducted from the 12 weeks. They cannot take 13 days in addition to the 12 weeks. For more information, call Debbie at 577 - 1250 or Stacey at 577 - 1330.

Base Education Center has new electronic response system

The station Education Center has a new e-mail address to respond to patron's questions. Their e-mail address is OMBEC. All questions should be answered within one working day. For more information, call (858) 577-1801.

Parenting classes offered

The Marine New Parent Support Program is holding several parenting classes for all Miramar personnel including active duty, retired, DoD civilians and their spouses. Baby Boot Camp is the fourth Wednesday and Thursday of each month from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. This class teaches the basics of caring for an infant. Mom's Basic Training is a six-week course for expectant or new mothers on infant care. Interested people should call for dates and times of this class.

Small Wonders is an eight-week class for parents of toddlers and preschoolers. It is offered Tuesdays from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at the Murphy Canyon Chapel classroom. For more information about classes, call (858) 577 - 9812.

Museum seeks volunteers

The Flying Leatherneck Museum is looking for volunteers to assist with the museum's gift shop. For more information, call (858) 693-1723 or (949) 643-1802.

Recycling Center Relocates

The station Recycling Center has relocated to the old Provost Marshall Building located in Building 6310. The center is open

Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Materials can also be dropped off at the satellite yard located in the parking lot of the main exchange. For more information, call 577-6366.



Warhorses run at full stride during flight op



photo courtesy of '465
Ten CH-53E helicopters from Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron 465 sit along the runway at Imperial County Airport, El Centro, Calif. after completing the first leg in a multi-bird flight operation. (Below) After refueling, all the Marines returned to the air for a quick one-hour hop back to MCAS Miramar. The total flight time for the multi-bird flight operation was two hours.

By Sgt. Troy M. Ruby

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Pilots and crewmembers alike from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465 were part of a momentous event recently as the squadron flew 10 CH-53E helicopters all at once, from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar to Imperial County Airport in El Centro.

"The logistics involved in this kind of event is what makes this flight a special event," said Capt. Al Alvarez, an HMH-465

operations flight officer. "It was very motivational for all the Marines in the squadron to see just what we are capable of doing."

In addition to this flight, 465 had already flown 60 + hours that week. That placed a lot of additional work on their maintenance department because each of the helicopters has to go through a tip-to-tip inspection before each flight

according to 1st Lt. Larry Post, 465's material control officer. In addition, about 35 man-hours of maintenance are required

per flight hour. That translates to 650 man-hours of maintenance for this flight alone.

"It was extraordinary to see all those aircraft coming down the line all at the same time," said Capt. Mark Raffetto a 465 operations flight officer. "It was something I've never seen before."

They also took some squadron Marines along for the ride because, although the Marines are constantly working in support of the helicopters, most don't get to ride in them said Alvarez.

"I had a great time on the flight," said Pfc. Doug Ponyah, an operations clerk for

465. "This was my first flight and it was great to be part of something this big."

Along with the safe completion of this multi-aircraft flight, over the last 6 months, 465 has also flown more hours and has had higher aircraft readiness than any other CH-53E squadron in the Marine Corps, said Lt.Col. Al Schroeder, HMH-465 commanding officer.

"I am very proud of the squadron's accomplishments, but we haven't reached our full potential yet," said Schroeder. "Despite their tremendous achievements we will continue to train and reach for excellence."

'We will continue to train and reach for excellence'

Lt. Col. Al Schroeder,
HMH-465, commanding officer



photo courtesy of '465

Babautas well represented on station

By Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

Most Marines consider the Marine Corps a brotherhood, a tight group where your peers will bend over backward to help you. That feeling is even stronger among three Marines aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. They are not only within the Marine Corps brotherhood, but within the same family lineage as well.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Raymond M. Babauta, Master Sgt. Beverly J. Babauta and Lance Cpl. Formaine D. Babauta are all related and working aboard the air station.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Babauta, and Master Sgt. Babauta have known each other since they were both privates first class checking into their first duty stations in 1982, but this is the first time they have been stationed together since.

“As I was checking into all the different places, disbursing, medical, and everywhere I went I noticed that someone had already signed my name on the check in rosters,” said Chief Warrant Officer Babauta. “I was baffled. I thought someone was using my name.”

He finally caught up to the culprit when all the new check-ins were waiting in the same area and being called by name as their paperwork was finished. When called Pfc. Babauta’s name was called, they both stood up and met for the first time. After a few discussions they realized their family trees started from the same roots.

“We were both in Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade,” said Master Sgt. Babauta. “He worked in the career planner’s office and I worked in the adjutant’s office. After that we sort of parted ways. We talked to each other on the phone a few times, but never got together again until we were stationed here together.”

Lance Cpl. Babauta joined the two elder Babautas when she checked in here in October. MCAS Miramar was her first duty station after being persuaded to join by her father, former Marine Capt. Ivan Babauta, and recruited by her uncle, Sgt. Maj. Benny Babauta, who has since retired.

“They really didn’t pressure me too much,” said Lance Cpl. Babauta. “I really decided to join out of the blue. I picked the Marines instead of the Army or other services because I figured if I was going to join, why not join the best.”

Now that she is part of the best, she is still among her family.

Chief Warrant Officer Babauta is the personnel officer for Marine Aircraft Group 16’s Group Personnel Administration Center. His job is to act as a quality check the GPAC’s work and find more efficient ways to do business.

Master Sgt. Babauta works as the personnel chief for 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing’s G-1, where she makes personnel assignments and dictates which Marines will be attached to which units. All incoming 3rd MAW Marines aboard the station must go through her before being assigned to their units.

Lance Cpl. Babauta serves as an aviation supply expeditor for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16. Her job is to run the pre-expended bin, which

involves ordering fast moving gear such as nuts and bolts for aircraft. Special attention must be given to this job, because when maintenance Marines need parts to keep aircraft flying, those parts need to be available to them.

Although all three Babauta’s have important jobs at the air station, they also know how to relax. All three of them find joy in running and often say hello to each other when crossing paths on the running trails.

“We pass each other all the time when we’re running on base,” said Chief Warrant Officer Babauta. “It’s something we all have in common. We all run.”

Another thing the family members have in common is their Guamanian heritage. All three were born on the island and come from one of the largest families in Agat, Guam.

“Once in a while we see at each other

See **Babauta**, page 10



photo by Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

(Left to right) Chief Warrant Officer Raymond M. Babauta, Lance Cpl. Formaine D. Babauta and Master Sgt. Beverly J. Babauta are all related and working aboard MCAS Miramar. Together they have served in the Marine Corps a combined total of 39 years.

Get to know 10 tips for safer auto travel

Courtesy of ARA Content

For many Americans, vacations involve the automobile and the thrill of driving to the beach, lake, campground or picnic site. However, all of this excitement can cause some drivers to forget to prepare for emergency conditions or accidents.

One of the leading manufacturers of emergency safety kits, Justin Case, recommends these simple steps for making the trip safer and a lot more enjoyable.

1. Allow plenty of time to reach your destination. You can alleviate unnecessary stress by planning for activities such as meals, sight-seeing and bathroom stops. The more people you are traveling with, the longer it will take to complete scheduled activities.

Second only to car trouble, the last thing anyone wants when traveling on the road is a ticket. Inspect taillights, headlights or other items that might result in a ticket. Long weekends are among the riskiest times to travel with congested highways, including vehicles that are towing boats and trailers, so slow down!

2. Ensure everyone is buckled up. Have child safety seats checked for proper installation. Never let children move around the back of a moving vehicle or travel trailer.

3. Keep your distance between vehicles. Assume other drivers may attempt risky maneuvers such as sudden lane changes. Drive defensively!

4. Pulling boats and trailers requires more time to enter and

exit highways. No one should have to use their brakes as a result of you pulling out in front of them. Part of the skill involved in driving is being able to accurately estimate how fast another vehicle is traveling, and how long it will be until it catches up to you. Don't just pull out and assume the other person will immediately see you and be able to slow down in time.

5. If you are traveling away from home, you should have a cellular phone with you. Avoid talking on a cellular phone while driving; such conversations can divert your attention from the road. Make sure children know how to use the cell phone to get help in an emergency, calling 911 or the operator.

6. A cramped vehicle is uncomfortable for the driver and passengers. Don't overfill your vehicle with luggage. Good visibility is essential. Choose a roof top carrier if necessary; they're available in either temporary or permanent models.

7. Leave the highway and get some rest during longer periods of travel. Don't stop exercising just because you're on the road. In fact, taking a walk, going for a run or doing any physical activity

will greatly reduce the stress of a road trip. This is especially necessary when traveling with children and pets. And don't forget to carry lots of extra water for you, your pets and your vehicle.

8. Travel during off-peak times if possible



Planning road trips can be stressful as well as exciting, but planning ahead improves your ability to deal successfully with emergencies and problems. Take the time to prepare for breakdowns, delays and small mishaps and your trip will be smooth sailing, instead of a bumpy road ahead.

photo courtesy of ARA Content

in order to avoid traffic congestion. When passing through cities, try to avoid morning and afternoon rush hours.

9. Make sure your vehicle is ready for a long road trip. Check your oil, tires, battery, cooling system and all belts and hoses. Check to see if all the fuses are there and in good condition. Always carry extra fuses, at least one of every size.

Your tires also should be inspected periodically for unusual wear. Look close for cuts, punctures, embedded screws, nails and other objects, big or

small. It is equally important to keep your spare tire up to par. You do not need to find out that it is low in air pressure when you need it most.

10. A tire blowout can happen without warning, but knowing how to react improves the chances of being able to keep yourself and others safe.

a) Keep a firm grip on the steering wheel.

b) Keep wheels as straight as possible. Jerking the steering wheel may cause the vehicle to lose control and roll.

c) If braking is necessary, brake slowly and lightly. Do not slam on the brakes. If your vehicle has ABS brakes, practice using them in an empty parking lot. Many people are surprised by the feel

of ABS brakes and think they are not working properly. Never pump ABS brakes.

d) Reduce your speed to 15 m.p.h. or less before pulling onto the shoulder of the road.

e) Get the car as far off the road as possible before exiting the vehicle. Turn on your four-way (hazard) flashers.

Breakdowns, especially when traveling far away from home, are stressful and even frightening situations. "Most people don't think that they can ever prepare for events like this," says Michael Joyce, President of Justin Case

products. "But taking a few steps in advance can save you time, emergency service costs and a headache."

Justin Case recommends the following:

- Have an emergency kit ready for many different situations. "Emergency kit needs vary with circumstances," says Joyce. "The kit you have should meet your individual needs and equip you for emergency situations." Justin Case has developed emergency kits for every budget, from simple to comprehensive kits containing light sources, jumper cables, tire inflators, heat generation and retention sources, and other items to attract or provide help. They also include first aid kits, something often overlooked by travelers.

Regardless of your destination, this first aid kit is added assurance that you can deal with emergency situations for you and your vehicle during travel and after you reach your destination.

- Justin Case also incorporated 24-hour roadside assistance as a natural addition to their safety kits. This safety kit insurance policy guarantees that if the kit cannot help resolve your roadside problem, the 24-hour roadside assistance program will. This free roadside service is available throughout the U.S. and Canada and allows unlimited service calls or three tows per year. The services provided include battery boosting, towing up to twenty-five miles, delivery of fluids, lockout services and tire changes.

For more information on Justin Case Products, visit www.aracontent.com.

MARINE CORPS MARATHON



"THE PEOPLE'S MARATHON" Poster Contest

Active and Reserve Marines, Sailors and civilian Marines serving with the Navy/Marine Team are invited to enter the poster contest for the 26th Marine Corps Marathon.

The Marine Corps Marathon will be held in Washington, D.C., on October 28, 2001. Our goal is to celebrate the Marine heritage and to promote physical fitness throughout the community. The Marine Corps Marathon is the fifth largest marathon in the United States, and is acclaimed by many as the best-organized race in the nation.

Our marathon has been called the 'Marathon of the Monuments,' since runners pass by many of the nation's most prominent sites: The Pentagon, Kennedy Center, Lincoln Memorial, U.S. Capitol building, Supreme Court, Jefferson Memorial and Arlington Cemetery, finishing at the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Monument).

The Marine Corps Marathon is also affectionately known as the "People's Marathon®" for the large number of first-time runners we historically attract.

Detailed Contest Information:

- Deadline: Submit 18 x 24 artwork, or in proportion to 18"x 24," by December 31, 2000. Send entries to P.O. Box 188 Quantico, VA 22134
- The following elements must be included in the poster design: the words "26th Marine Corps Marathon," "The People's Marathon®," "the date: "October 28, 2001," www.marinemarathon.com; and the Marathon logo.
- You may also include the Marine Corps emblem and for more race information call "1-800-RUN-USMC."
- The final poster dimensions will be 18x 24. The runners t-shirt will be "Forrest Green" which your poster design and color scheme should blend with.

All entries will be judged and the winner declared by January 10, 2001. Original artwork will become the property of the Marine Corps Marathon and will not be returned. The winner will receive two round-trip airline tickets for travel within the CONUS, to be awarded after January 31, 2001. Travel must be completed by October 31, 2001.

For more information call Jennifer Robinson at (703) 784-2225, DSN 278-2225, ext. 296.



Photo courtesy of Marine Corps Marathon

Jaguars take down undefeated TSB, 25-0

By Cpl. Micheal O. Foley

CPAO, MCAS Miramar

The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Jaguars upped their record to 9-0 in the Camp Pendleton Tackle Football League Sept. 6 with a 25-0 win against their toughest opponent to date, the previously undefeated Transportation Support Bn. Jaguars at Camp Pendleton.

The game generated a lot of hype with both teams putting their undefeated records on the line, TSB at 7-0 and Miramar at 8-0. The winner of the game would be the lone undefeated team in the league. Miramar head coach Richard Mohny cooked up the winning game plan that kept the Jags ahead of TSB during the duration of the game.

"Offensively we wanted to spread their defense out," said Mohny. "We wanted to give their defense new looks and attack them with a more balanced run/pass ratio. Defensively we wanted to take away their slant routes and contain their quarterback from scrambling around freely."

The Jaguars were successful in both areas and played some of the best football they have the entire year. Although they have beat lesser teams by larger margins, this game they had it all together.

"I was surprised that we played as well as we did considering our practices have been less than adequate," said Mohny. "If the old saying 'you practice how you play' is true, then we played over our heads. Good players know when its time to step up to the challenge."

One of Miramar's best players, leading

rusher Jeremiah Budnovich was sidelined for the game with a knee injury he suffered in the previous game. The extent of the injury is unknown and he is scheduled to undergo an MRI Oct. 1. With Budnovich sitting out, Miramar lost more than just another player.

"Bud is like another coach on the field," said Mohny. "He makes sure players are performing their correct responsibilities as well as gives input to the coaching staff on what he sees when running the ball. Players like him only come around once in a while. That's what makes Bud so special."

The first quarter of the game was a defensive struggle. Both teams moved the ball effectively but their defensive units came up strong with big plays to end drives. TSB starting using a no-huddle offense, which gave Miramar some trouble, but the defense adapted and stopped TSB before they could cause any damage.

Wet field conditions made the football slippery and caused the Jaguars to botch two field goal attempts early in the game.

Both times Miramar was ready to score, but the holder couldn't get a hold of the slippery ball.

"That night was the wettest night I've seen to date," said Mohny. "We didn't have enough game balls to last the entire game so players were having to catch the ball wet and heavy."

Fortunately

the Jaguars got on track midway through the second quarter with a two big plays from the defense. Defensive back Carnell Martin picked off a pass and ran it back to



photo by Staff Sgt. Ted L. Hansen

Defensive end Edward Anderson tackles the TSB quarterback for a loss after another Jaguar steals his right shoe.

the TSB 5-yard line setting up a touchdown run by running back Dione Briscoe. On the next drive the defense forced a fumble and gave the Jaguars great field position. After a good goal line stand by TSB, Kevin J. Mercier kicked a 22-yard field goal to put Miramar ahead 9-0 going into halftime.

Mercier set the tone in the second half pinning TSB inside their own 15 with a good punt early in the third quarter. The defense held and forced TSB to punt back giving Miramar excellent field position again. Mercier took advantage by booting

an amazing 44-yard field goal. The holder got a hold of the wet ball, set it down and Mercier sneaked it inside the left upright making the score 12-0.

"The 44-yard field goal was the turning point of the game," said Mohny. "Not only did it add confidence to the team, but it also meant that TSB had to score twice to beat us."

Mercier had a big night with seven total points coming on one extra point and two field goals from 22 and 44 yards. If it

See **Jaguars**, page 10

Flyers looking for new blood

The Miramar Flyers will open their fall ice hockey season next weekend.

They will be holding tryouts over the next two weeks for experienced players.

Games are played on Saturdays at the San Diego Ice Arena off Mira Mesa Road.

Interested players can contact Major Pagano at 577-4909 or Captain Burdette at 577-7301.



Scorpion, continued from page 1

those collateral missions, as well as challenged 3d LAAD Marines to broaden their decision-making scope. As Davis explained, Desert Scorpion ultimately evolved into a demanding “Three Block War” scenario.

“Our job is to provide force protection from the things the MAGTF commander doesn’t want attacked by air,” said Davis. “Once all the enemy planes are destroyed, we give him the option of providing refugee control and military operations in urban terrain support – things not typically associated with an air defense unit.”

After an intensive planning period, the battalion simulated embarking via strategic airlift to the Asia-Pacific theater. Once 3d LAAD Bn. arrived “in country,” command and control became the primary concern. This involved establishment of a camp headquarters and combat operations center, which is designed to communicate with and position the numerous LAAD teams disbursed throughout the area of operation.

Camp establishment tasking fell upon the broad shoulders of Gunnery Sgt. Don M. Harrington, Headquarters and Service battery gunnery sergeant who organized perimeter security. Master Sgt. Maverick Burroughs, H&S operations chief, coordinated the flow of information between COC and the firing batteries and directed logistics support of those batteries tasked with eliminating air threats.

“Our job here is to ensure requests from the forward batteries are supported through the COC. Once S-4 (logistics) receives that information, rapid response teams are sent out to provide water, fuel, transportation and Avenger maintenance to ensure our forward batteries remain operational,” said

Harrington.

“We are in a compressed period of time to execute a full-blown operation, so things that would be happening progressively are happening immediately. That’s a reflection of the Marines willingness to learn and doing their jobs effectively.”

While the LAAD batteries began receiving their mission orders, other 3d LAAD Bn. elements began assessing their “collateral” duties. At Camp Pendleton’s MOUT facility, a scenario was created where the United Nations was seeking to create a safe haven for the overflow of refugees in country. 3d LAAD Bn. platoons were tasked with keeping the safe haven village secure and manage situations that would arise in an urban environment. “Actors” were on hand to fill specific roles, such as village leaders, guerrillas, media, enemy soldiers and enemy sympathizers.

Lieutenant platoon commanders and corporal section leaders suddenly found themselves making decisions that could elicit international headlines or cost lives. What do you do when a refugee comes up to your position? Is he a good guy or a bad guy, and how do you tell the difference? How should a platoon commander react when media arrive and demand attention? These were just a few of the dilemmas the 3d LAAD Marines faced during the MOUT scenario.

According to 2nd Lt. Daniel C. Maze, Battery A platoon commander, “We had to fully understand our mission and understand that everything was uncertain. We had to demonstrate a friendly posture, but at a moment’s notice be ready to throw our weapons to our shoulders.”

Dirt, sweat and the day-to-day grind of life in the field aside, Davis said Desert Scorpion’s ultimate results were immeasur-

ably worth the battalion’s efforts.

“What I told everyone from the beginning is that I hope we make all the mistakes we can now when it only costs us sweat and aggravation. If we make those mistakes here, it won’t cost us blood when we do it for real,” said Davis.

Wilcutt, continued from page 1

as pilot; NASA astronaut Dr. Edward T. Lu; NASA astronaut Richard A. Mastracchio; United States Coast Guard Cmdr. Daniel C. Burbank; Russian Air Force Col. Yuri. I. Malenchenko; and Russian cosmonaut Dr. Boris V. Morukov.

Also set to take place during this mission is what will be only the second U. S. - Russian space walk outside a Space shuttle. Lu and Malenchenko will conduct a 6 and a half hour walk to hook up electrical, communications and telemetry cables between Zvezda and the Zarya Control Module.

According to the NASA Web site the ISS is “an exciting gateway to new frontiers in human space exploration - meeting the deep-seated need of men and women throughout history to explore the unknown, to understand their world and the universe, and to apply that experience for the benefit of all here on Earth.”

The Atlantis is scheduled to undock from the ISS on the 10th day of the 11-day mission. Colonel Wilcutt will fly Atlantis to the Kennedy Space Center in the predawn hours of September 20, 2000, according to NASA.

More information is available at: <http://www.shuttlepresskit.com> and on the NASA Web page at: <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/index-m.html>.

Dake, continued from page 2

“I’ve said this before,” he said, emphasizing each word. “We lose the equivalent of a MEU(SOC) every year to death and disability. Safety will come when Marines embrace it and not just when headquarters directs it.”

“The individual Marine has great talent and resources. Setting your goals high will bring you to success you didn’t even imagine,” said Gen. Dake. “The only way to say it is this - “You can achieve more, so do it.”

The retirement ceremony was attended by the vice chiefs of all the military services according to Gen. Dake’s office. It was also attended by the Undersecretary of Defense, Mr. Rudy deLeon, former Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Carl E. Mundy, Jr., and former Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Richard I. Neal.

Babauta, continued from page 7

along with the rest of the Babautas at cultural celebrations around the area,” said Chief Warrant Officer Babauta. “When we’re there we point out to each other who we are related to and how. Lance Cpl. Babauta is sort of the new generation of Babautas. Sometimes we have to ask her, ‘who’s kid is that?’ or ‘how are they related?’ Being the last one to live on the island, she knows a little more about the recent additions to the family.”

“When people leave the island they have their own lives and don’t really keep up with what’s going on back home,” said Master Sgt. Babauta. “We looked to her as sort of a link to what is going on back home.”

Fortunately for the Babautas they always have a piece of home nearby.

Jaguars, continued from page 9

weren’t for the wet field conditions he may have had more points. He also had three punts and several long kickoffs.

“This young man is amazing,” said Mohney. “It is his first time ever playing contact football. Poise and confidence are the key ingredients of being a good kicker. Mercier doesn’t lack anything in these two categories.”

Miramar added two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter, one on a 10-yard pass from quarterback Aaron Sutton to flanker Jermaine Rutledge and one on a 35-yard interception return by Lonnie Graves. The two touchdowns proved to be icing on the cake as the defense remained rigid not allowing any points for the seventh straight game.

Miramar will play again 7:10 p.m. Wednesday against 1st Supply Bn. at Camp Pendleton’s 11 Area main side football field.

Utilities, continued from page 3

naturally. Patricio explained that the reason for moving the pockets was to make them more accessible when Marines are wearing combat gear over their uniforms.

Brown boots will also be making their way into every day use in the Marine Corps. When the uniforms are unveiled every recruit will be issued one set of traditional black boots and one set of brown jungle boots.

Other ideas Patricio threw at the Marines included blousing trousers with boot gaiters or blousing devices inside the trouser legs, the integration of knee and elbow padding with the uniform for use in the field and removable sleeves among other things.

The news of the new uniform designs landed mixed reviews among Miramar Marines who attended the brief.

“I don’t think there’s any use for brown boots,” said Cpl. Julius Franks, aviation electronic technician, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 465. “If it’s not broke, don’t fix it. This uniform has been good to go for me for the past three years and it will be good to go until I get out. I think Marines are distinctive enough by the way we roll our sleeves and the covers we wear as well as the crisp clean appearance of our uniform standards.”

“The new uniforms are a lot different than what we have now,” said Staff Sgt. Advaro H. Lopez, career planner, Marine Wing Support Squadron 373. “The incorporated a lot of old things with some futuristic things. All the new uniforms can do is help us perform our mission better in the field.”

“I like the brown boots. They go with the uniform,” said Lance Cpl. Eric R. Baquol, system administrator, Special Security Communication Team. “The slanted pockets make a lot of sense. It’s a lot more natural to slide your hands into slanted pockets. It’s going to be good to not have to look at someone’s name tapes to see if they are a Marine or not.”



MCCS library goes Online

If your computer at work or at home has Internet access and either an Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator web browser, you can surf the catalog of the MCCS Station Library, plus 15 other Marine Corps libraries.

To reach their catalog, go to *http://10.1.12.20/* in your web browser's address bar, or type *http://library.usmc-mccs.org/*.

At the U.S. Marine Corps Community Services Libraries page, click on Miramar. At the Miramar page, click on "Search from Home," and you are in the catalog. You can search from your office or from any computer with Internet access just as you would on one of the in-house library computers. You can also reach this site through your MCCS home page at *www.mccsmiramar.com*.

The MCCS Library is located in the Lifelong Learning Center, Bldg. 5305, off Miramar Way and Pelican. They are now open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays. The Library is closed holidays and Sundays. For more information call 577-1261.

Websites Offer Updates on MCCS Events

Don't forget to check to see what's happening on base!

Interested in the upcoming Miramar Air Show (the largest military air show in the country)? Check out *www.miramarairshow.com* for the latest info, including business opportunities.

Runway 10K & Flight Line Bike Classic are coming

Entry blanks for the 2000 Runway 10K & Flight Line Bike Classic (10K/5K Run/Walk & Fun Bike Ride) are available. The events, which include a Wheelchair 10K, take place Saturday, Sept. 23. Full registration information is available on the entry form (the form is downloadable from *www.mccsmiramar.com/10kbike.html*; you can also register online). As this is the kick-off event for the Miramar Air Show, all par-

ticipants will receive free passes to the Friday Invitation Only Air Show on Oct. 13. Call 577-1000 or 577-4128 for info.

Join Semper Fit at family health day fun run

Join MCCS Miramar's Semper Fit folks on a free family fun run, today at 11:15 a.m., with free prizes. There will be a 3-mile course for runners, a 1.5-mile course for walkers and joggers, and a 0.5-mile course for kiddies. Strollers and walkers are wel-

come! Questions? Call the Fitness Center at 577-4129.

Officer Spouses Club open membership drive

Miramar Officer Spouses Club will host their membership drive on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., at 1402 Orion Court. The admission fee is one "white elephant" gift. Light appetizers and beverages will be served at no cost, and there will be a fashion show by Stein Mart. Everyone is invited to enjoy a free, fun-filled evening. For more information, call (858) 503-6757.

Air Show tickets on sale

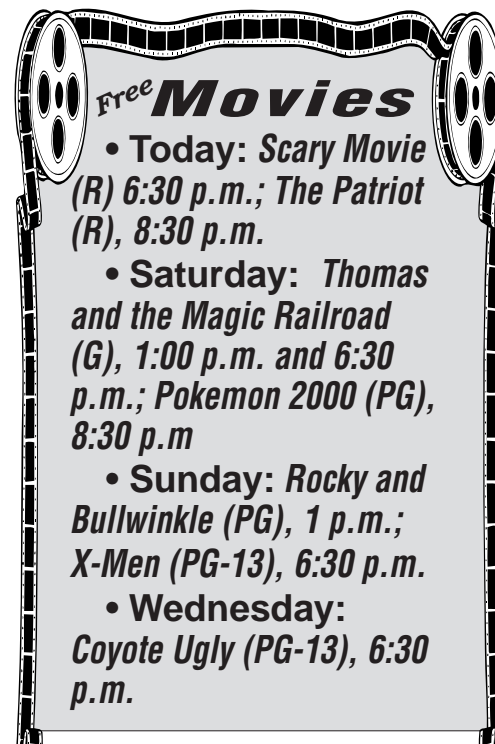
General admission blanket seating at the Miramar Air Show is free, but several paid seating upgrades are offered.

The ultimate is the Semper Fi Chalet, which includes a continental breakfast, buffet lunch and snacks, beer, wine, soda and water, preferred parking and a complimentary souvenir program. Other choices include the Flight Deck Chalet, The Observation Deck Chalet, box seats and grandstand seating.

Ticket prices vary by location and show, but advance purchases will save you money. Visit Entertainment Tickets in Bldg. 2524, or call them at 577-1016. Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster, (619) 220-TIXS. Visit the website at *www.miramarairshow.com* for more Air Show seating and ticket information and a link to Ticketmaster.

Legoland salutes military

Legoland California has specially-priced tickets for just \$25.25, valid for anyone over age 3, and special military-only give-aways. Enter to win the Legoland Summer Salute 2000, now through Sept. 30. The Grand Prize is an Ultimate Legoland Birthday Party (approximate \$500 value); 1st Prize is a day at Camp Legoland (approximate \$300 value), and 2nd Prize is a Legoland Gift Basket (approximate \$100 value). Good for up to 15 guests through Dec. 31. Stop by the Entertainment Ticket Office, Bldg. 2524, or call 577-4126.



Free Movies

- **Today: *Scary Movie (R)* 6:30 p.m.; *The Patriot (R)*, 8:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday: *Thomas and the Magic Railroad (G)*, 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; *Pokemon 2000 (PG)*, 8:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday: *Rocky and Bullwinkle (PG)*, 1 p.m.; *X-Men (PG-13)*, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Wednesday: *Coyote Ugly (PG-13)*, 6:30 p.m.**